

# All About Badgers

## What Is a Badger?

Badgers are mammals. They give birth to live young and feed them milk. A baby badger is called a cub.



They have fluffy, grey fur on their back and a short tail.



## Where Do Badgers Live?

- The badgers that live in the UK have a black and white face.
- Badgers are nocturnal. They are active at night.

Badgers make their homes underground by digging tunnels with their strong paws. These homes are called setts.

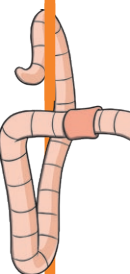
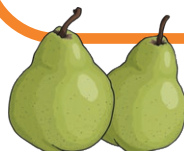
A group of badgers that live in the same sett is called a clan.



## What Do Badgers Eat?

Badgers have a good sense of smell to help them find food.

Badgers are omnivores. This means they eat plants and other animals. They eat earthworms, slugs, small mammals, eggs and fruit.



# Questions

1. **The badgers that live in the UK have a \_\_\_\_\_ face.**

What are the missing words? Tick one.

- ☐ grey and black
- ☐ white and grey
- ☐ black and white

2. What word is used to describe a badger's tail? Tick one.

- ☐ short
- ☐ fluffy
- ☐ long

3. Where do badgers live? Tick one.

- ☐ in a burrow
- ☐ in a sett
- ☐ in a den

4. Which of these sentences is true? Tick one.

- ☐ Badgers are herbivores.
- ☐ Badgers hibernate.
- ☐ Badgers are nocturnal.

5. What is the name given to a group of badgers that live together in a sett? Tick one.

- ☐ clan
- ☐ herd
- ☐ flock

# Answers

1. The badgers that live in the UK have a \_\_\_\_\_ face.

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- ☐ white and grey
- ☒ **black and white**

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- ☐ herd
- ☐ flock

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Badgers are mammals. They give birth to live young and feed them milk. A baby badger is called a cub.

Badgers are part of the same animal family as otters and ferrets. There are different sorts of badgers but those that live in the UK are called European badgers.



European badgers are short, stocky animals that have a very distinctive black and white striped face. Their back is covered in fluffy, grey fur and their legs are black. They have a short, grey, fluffy tail.



**Did You Know...?**

Badgers are nocturnal so they are active at night.



## Where Do Badgers Live?

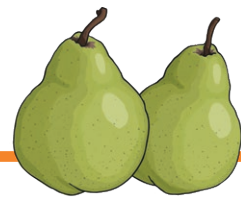
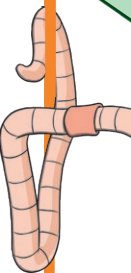
Badgers live in many parts of the UK. They mostly live in woodland that is close to open countryside.

Badgers live in underground homes called setts. These are tunnels and chambers that badgers dig out using their strong paws.



## What Do Badgers Eat?

Badgers are omnivores as they eat plants and other animals. Their diet includes earthworms, grubs, slugs, snails, small mammals, eggs and fruit. They have an excellent sense of smell to help them to find food.



### Did You Know...?

A group of badgers that live together in the same sett is called a clan.



# Questions

1. Which of these sentences is **true**? Tick one.

- ☐ Badgers are carnivores.
- ☐ Badgers are omnivores.
- ☐ Badgers are herbivores.

2. Circle one word that means the same as 'great'.

*They have an excellent sense of smell to help them to find food.*

3. Draw **three** lines and make each fact correct.

A baby badger is  
called a...

sett.

A badger's home is  
called a...

clan.

A group of badgers  
that live in the same  
sett is called a...

cub.

4. Fill in the missing word.

Badgers live in many parts of the UK. They mostly live in \_\_\_\_\_ that is close to open countryside.

5. Find and copy the word that means 'active at night'.

\_\_\_\_\_

# Answers

1. Which of these sentences is **true**? Tick one.

- ☐ Badgers are carnivores.
- ☒ **Badgers are omnivores.**
- ☐ Badgers are herbivores.

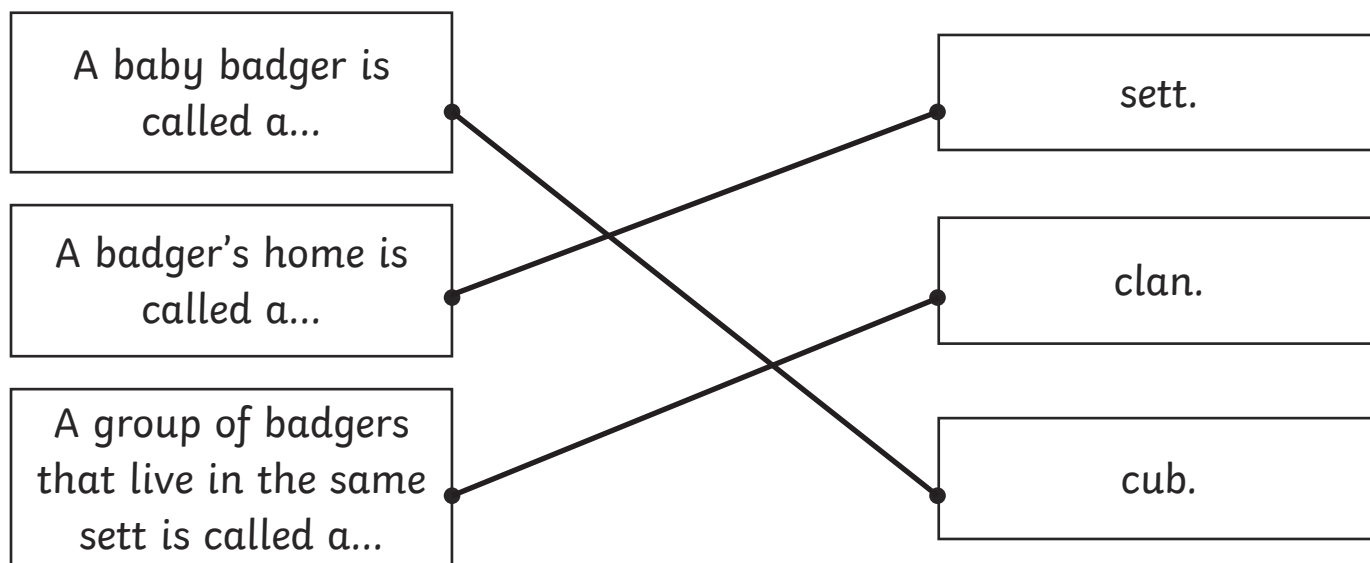
2. Circle one word that means the same as 'great'.

*They have an excellent sense of smell to help them to find food.*

**Award one mark for:**

- excellent

3. Draw **three** lines and make each fact correct.



4. Fill in the missing word.

Badgers live in many parts of the UK. They mostly live in **woodland** that is close to open countryside.

5. Find and copy the word that means 'active at night'.

**nocturnal**

# All About Badgers



## What Is a Badger?

Badgers are mammals as they give birth to live young and feed them milk. A baby badger is called a cub.

Badgers are part of the same animal family as otters and ferrets. There are different species of badger.

The species that lives in the UK is called the European badger.



European badgers are short, **stocky** animals that have a very distinctive black and white striped face. Their back is covered in fluffy, grey fur and their legs are black. They have a short, grey, fluffy tail.

Badgers can grow up to 100cm long.

Did You Know...?

Badgers are nocturnal so they are active at night.



## Where Do Badgers Live?

Badgers live in many areas of the UK. They usually live in woodland close to open countryside. Badgers live in underground homes called setts. These are large networks of tunnels and chambers that badgers dig out using their powerful paws.

Badgers use plant materials to make nests to sleep on inside the chambers. They keep these clean by regularly replacing them. Some badger setts extend up to 100 metres underground and have many different entrances.

Setts are used by the same families of badgers and are passed down from one **generation** to another. They are added to and changed over time so some badger setts can be up to 100 years old.

## What Do Badgers Eat?

Badgers are the largest land predators in the UK. They are omnivores as they eat plants and other animals. Their diet consists of earthworms, grubs, slugs, snails, small mammals, eggs and fruit. They have an excellent sense of smell to help them to find food.

**Did You Know...?**  
A group of badgers that live together in the same sett is called a clan.

### Glossary

**generation:** A group of people or animals that were born within a few years of each other so they are all of a similar age.

**stocky:** A short, strong, solid body.

# Questions

1. What are the missing words? Tick one.

**European badgers are short, stocky animals that have a very distinctive \_\_\_\_\_ striped face.**

- ☐ grey and black
- ☐ white and grey
- ☐ black and white
- ☐ brown and grey

2. Number the facts from 1-4 to show the order in which they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- ☐ The species of badger that lives in the UK is called the European badger.
- ☐ Some badger setts extend up to 100 metres underground.
- ☒ 1 Badgers are part of the same animal family as otters and ferrets.
- ☐ Badgers have a short, grey, fluffy tail.

3. Fill in the missing word.

Badgers are \_\_\_\_\_ so they are active at night.

4. What is the name of a badger's underground home?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Look at the section called **What Do Badgers Eat?**

Find and copy one word which means 'to eat both plants and meat'.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Why do you think different generations of badgers continue to use the same sett year after year?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Answers

1. What are the missing words? Tick one.

**European badgers are short, stocky animals that have a very distinctive \_\_\_\_\_ striped face.**

- ☐ grey and black  
☐ white and grey  
☒ **black and white**  
☐ brown and grey

2. Number the facts from 1-4 to show the order in which they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

- 2** The species of badger that lives in the UK is called the European badger.  
**4** Some badger setts extend up to 100 metres underground.  
**1** Badgers are part of the same animal family as otters and ferrets.  
**3** Badgers have a short, grey, fluffy tail.

3. Fill in the missing word.

Badgers are **nocturnal** so they are active at night.

4. What is the name of a badger's underground home?

**A badger's underground home is called a sett.**

5. Look at the section called **What Do Badgers Eat?**

Find and copy one word which means 'to eat both plants and meat'.

**omnivore**

6. Why do you think different generations of badgers continue to use the same sett year after year?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think different generations of badgers continue to use the same sett because it's where they have grown up so it is a familiar and safe place for them to carry on living in. It also means that they don't have to leave their home and dig a new sett.**